

(b) the number of mines under private sector and the number of accidents that took place during the last three years, mine-wise; and

(c) the status of safety measures in each mine?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF MINES (DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY): (a) This data is not centrally maintained in the Ministry of Mines.

(b) As per information furnished by Directorate General of Mines Safety (DGMS) under Ministr of Labour & Employment the number of private mines is 4045 and the number of accidents reported during last three years is given below:

| Year               | Number of accidents |
|--------------------|---------------------|
| 2004               | 47                  |
| 2005 (provisional) | 41                  |
| 2006(provisional)  | 47                  |

(c) The Owner, Agent and Manager of each mine is required to comply with provisions of Mines Act, which is over seen by the officers of DGMS, and in case of non compliance, action as per law is taken against the mine's management.

### **Constitutional status to National Minority Commission**

†636. SHRI AMIR-ALAM KHAN: Will the Minister of MINORITY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are considering to give constitutional status, to provide autonomy, to National minority Commission;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) by when the decision is expected to be taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF MINORITY AFFAIRS (SHRI A.R. ANTULAY): (a) to (c) Yes, Sir. The Constiution (one hundred and third amendment) Bill, 2004, to confer constitutional status on the National Commission for Minorities was introduced in the Lok Sabha on December, 2004. The Bill was referred to the Standing Committee on Social Justice and Empowerment

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

for examination and report. The recommendations made in the report of the Standing Committee are being examined.

### **Upliftment of minority communities**

**637. SHRI MOTIUR RAHMAN:** Will the Minister of MINORITY AFFAIRS be pleased to state the details of the action taken to uplift the status of minority communities regarding their educational, social-welfare, economical and employment status etc. before and after the receipt of Sachar Committee Report, in Bihar and other parts of the country?

**THE MINISTER OF MINORITY AFFAIRS (SHRI A.R. ANTULAY):** In June, 2006, the Prime Minister's new 15 Point Programme for the Welfare of Minorities has been announced which provides for enhancing opportunities for education, equitable share in economic activities and employment; improving the conditions of living of minorities, and wherever possible, earmarking of 15% of targets and outlays under various schemes for minorities. This programme is for the entire country.

### **Increasing incidents among minority community**

**†638. SHRI JANESHWAR MISHRA:**  
**SHRI BRIJ BHUSHAN TIWARI:**

Will the Minister of MINORITY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of the fact that incidents related to extravagance and dowry in marriages, and also female foeticide are on the rise among the minority community;

(b) whether Government are aware of the reports submitted by the Muslim Personal Law Board and Bhartiya Janwadi Mahila Samiti in this regard;

(c) if so, the salient features thereof;

(d) whether any action plan has been prepared by his Ministry to remove the evils prevailing in minority community; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

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†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.